



From the Director...

Wraparound Milwaukee Receives Lincoln Gaines Award

On January 21, 2008, Wraparound Milwaukee was presented with the 2008 Lincoln Gaines Award by the Board of the YMCA. Wraparound Milwaukee was one of three recipients recognized at the Annual Martin Luther King Breakfast held at the Midwest Airlines Center. The three recipients were:

- Strong Kids Award – Charles L. Brown, Jr.
- Strong Families Award – Wraparound Milwaukee
- Strong Communities Award – Clayborn Benson

Mike Anderson, Reporter for WISN 12, was master of ceremonies and Senator Herb Kohl, Senator Russ Feingold, Mayor Tom Barrett and County Executive Scott Walker were present and gave their remarks on the importance of keeping the spirit and legacy of Dr. King with us.

The plaque Wraparound Milwaukee received will hang in the Wraparound offices. Many thanks go to our great staff, including our managers and support staff, care coordinators, providers and, of course, our families, for their dedication, commitment and extraordinary hard work everyday. This is an important and well-deserved recognition for the Wraparound Milwaukee program.

Bruce Kamradt, Director

Initially, some team members were not optimistic of a reunification strategy to help Immanuel and his family. Opinions and perceptions based on past family history made their way into formal courtroom proceeding discussions. Remarkably, it was within the courtroom where considerable brainstorming took place and where timelines were established to provide team members with a plan of care that alleviated their concerns. The opportunity for family change had been created.

Immanuel understood what needed to be accomplished, as did his family. They displayed a remarkable amount of patience allowing his journey home to his family to develop. Team meetings took place within a variety of locations to assure all members had opportunity to contribute to the successful reunification of the family. Occupational therapy, crisis stabilization, family therapy and medication management providers were brought on board to support the care plan. Immanuel would have the daily company of his mom and siblings, as well as receiving the support of many caregivers.

Throughout the journey, Immanuel kept himself busy with school, graduated from middle school and began high school. Through the support of his family and the willingness of team members to believe in Immanuel's success, a family is now reunited.

(* Name changed for confidentiality.)

Submitted by Alternatives in Psychological Consultation



Wraparound Success Story...

Immanuel and his family most recently completed their Wraparound journey and have been safely and harmoniously residing under one roof for over one year. Previously, Immanuel had gone through a dozen or more placement changes over a two-year timeframe. None of which were back to his mother's home.

Immanuel's mom became an active participant in the planning process for her son at a time when other institutional caregivers had given up on him. The formal options for residence and care had proven themselves to clearly not be an answer for Immanuel's individual needs.

Local News...



REACH Enrollment Grows Steadily

Since the initiation of REACH in late October 2007, Wraparound Milwaukee's new expanded program for non-court involved youth continues to steadily grow. Enrollment as of the end of January now exceeds 50 families. Outreach activities to familiarize the Milwaukee school system with the program have included meetings with all the Milwaukee Public Schools, school psychologists and social workers and special education directors. As part of the new Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant, Wraparound Milwaukee

will be assigning a liaison to the 30 targeted schools who will be a point of contact for Wraparound and REACH.

Wraparound Milwaukee hopes to achieve an enrollment of at least 150 families in the expanded Wraparound program by the end of the year.

Further outreach to mental health providers, large pediatric practices, such as Downtown Health Center and Initial Assessment staff at Child Welfare are planned during February and March of this year.

For more information about REACH, contact Pauline Spencer at (414) 257-7607/

Bruce Kamradt, Director

Child Welfare Report Reveals Changing Trends and Complexity of Youth being Served

At this past week's Child Welfare Partnership Council, the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (BMCW) reported on their 2007 statistics related to youth in out-of-home care. Since many of our readers probably do not have a full appreciation of the numbers and types of placement settings Child Welfare youth reside in, the following statistics should be helpful.

For the first time since 1998, there was an increase for the year in the number of children in out-of-home placement. As of December 31, 2007, there were 2,907 children in out-of-home care (up 14% from 2006). The higher level of needs of the youth is reflected in the increase in children in treatment foster homes (up 18% in 2006 from 404 to 494 youth at the end of 2007). Youth in group home settings increased from 112 to 146 and the residential treatment numbers increased from 84 to 87 youth. These numbers do not include those referred to Wraparound Milwaukee.

The total number and percentage of youth in placement as of December 31, 2007 include:

- 233 (8%) - Relative Licensed Foster Homes
- 818 (27.8%) - With Relatives on a CHIPS Order (in non-licensed relative kinship care)
- 926 (31.8%) - Non-Relative Licensed Foster Homes
- 31 (1%) - Pre-Adoptive Homes
- 494 (17%) - Treatment Foster Care
- 58 (2%) - AWOL
- 146 (5%) - Group Homes
- 6 (.2%) - Detention
- 2 (.03%) - Hospitalized
- 18 (.6%) - Correctional Facilities
- 87 (2%) - Residential Care Centers
- 52 (2%) - Assessment Centers
- 35 (1.2%) - Adolescent Placement Stabilization Centers

Additionally, there were 3,761 youth not involved with the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (BMCW)

with relatives in kinship care, 535 CHIPS youth on supervision at home and 666 active licensed foster homes.

While this is a snapshot view of where youth were at the end of 2007, the trend in child welfare is toward serving

a population of older youth with more challenging emotional, mental health and behavioral needs. This is certainly where a program like Wraparound Milwaukee fills a need in the Child Welfare system.

As to Wraparound Milwaukee involved CHIPS youth, there were also 183 CHIPS youth in Wraparound Milwaukee at the end of 2007, somewhat less than in previous years. Increasing the number of Child Welfare enrolled youth with serious emotional needs in Wraparound Milwaukee is a goal for 2008 and an area we are working in partnership with BMCW to achieve.

Bruce Kamradt, Director



Chinese New Year
February 7th

Mobile Crisis News...

The Mobile Urgent Treatment Team (MUTT) began its 2008 training partnership with Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS). On January 25, MUTT-MPS met with staff from the MPS youth transition program to share ideas. Several MPS principals also responded to a survey, and some monthly cross-consultation meetings should arise.

MUTT for Foster Families (MUTT-FF) was recently invited to participate in PACE training, with new foster parents. This partnership, made possible by Children's Service Society, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare, allows MUTT-FF the opportunity to meet newly licensed foster parents, and begin collaboration.

An article in the January edition of *The American Psychologist* reported on research around cultural influences in youth suicide and suicidal behavior. The articles underscored the importance of family and natural community supports, across cultures, in reducing the risk for youth self-harm. With the help of community strategies, and the increased reliance on family resources, youth suicide and suicidal behavior has been reduced significantly since 1990. Communities seem to be on the right track with this approach.

Dr. Chris Morano, Director of Mobile Crisis Services

Quality Assurance News...

Ethics and Boundaries

The importance of treating youth and families with dignity, respect and fairness is the responsibility of all who serve. Respecting one's confidential information, conducting oneself in a professional manner and treating all youth and families in a non-discriminatory manner is of utmost importance. Ethical standards of practice must be maintained, as must appropriate boundaries. As our community becomes more diversified, it is our responsibility to increase our knowledge and awareness about the cultural practices, values and beliefs of those we serve. Keeping an open mind and refraining from making assumptions allows one to learn and grow.

Wraparound Milwaukee is committed to keeping the value of cultural competency at the forefront of our daily interactions with youth, families and each other. We ask you to join in this effort.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to give me a call at (414) 257-7608 or e-mail me at paerdman@wrapmilw.org.

Pamela Erdman, QA/QI Director

Quality Quote of the Month

Men are wise in proportion, not to their experience, but to their capacity for experience.
James Boswell (1770-1795)

Provider Network News...

Provider Credentialing Audit

Children's Community Health Plan (CCHP), a subsidiary of Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, completed a Delegated Credentialing Audit of Wraparound Milwaukee's Provider Network in December 2007. The CCHP Auditor reviewed Wraparound Milwaukee's credentialing process for Behavioral Health and AODA Practitioners to determine compliance with the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) credentialing standards. The audit included a review of Wraparound Milwaukee's credentialing policies, procedures and Behavioral Health/AODA Practitioner credentialing files.

Wraparound Milwaukee received a score of 100% for compliance with NCQA credentialing standards.

Jeannine Maher, Provider Network Coordinator

Announcements...

Positive Recognition Awards

The following have been recipients of "Positive Recognition" awards:

Aggie Hale – Wraparound Milwaukee County

Nominated by Lora Flores-Rice – LaCausa, Inc.

"Thank you for your patience when answering my questions, especially when those answers are right in front of my face."

Luciana Gonzales – LaCausa, Inc.

Nominated by Lora Flores-Rice – LaCausa, Inc.

"Thank you for continuously going above and beyond. Your help has been invaluable to our team and to our new team."

Upcoming Events...



MARCH 2008

Mar. 4	New Care Coordinator Trg. – Mod. 2
8:30-1:30pm	BHD-Day Hospital – Room 416
Mar. 4	New Vendor Orientation
9:00-12:00pm	BHD-Day Hospital – Room 212
Mar. 5	New Care Coordinator Trg. – Mod. 3
8:30-1:30pm	BHD-Day Hospital – Room 416
Mar. 5	DHHS Centralized QA Mtg.
9:00am	BHD-Day Hospital – Room 212
Mar. 6	Mgmt./Supervisors Meeting
8:15-10:00am	BHD-Day Hospital – Room 212
Mar. 6	High Risk Reviews
11:00-1:00pm	BHD-Day Hospital – Room 253
Mar. 6	Monthly Care Coordinator Mtg.
1:00-3:00pm	CHP Auditorium
Mar. 7	Provider Training – Level I
8:30-4:00pm	BHD-Day Hospital – Room 416
Mar. 7	WRIT
9:00-5:00pm	BHD-Day Hospital – Room 253
Mar. 10	New Care Coordinator Trg. – Mod. 4
8:30-12:30pm	BHD-Day Hospital – Room 416
Mar. 11	New Care Coordinator Trg. – Mod. 5
8:30-12:30pm	BHD-Day Hospital – Room 416
Mar. 12	New Care Coordinator Trg. – Mod. 6
8:30-1:00pm	BHD-Day Hospital – Room 416
Mar. 12	Child Psych. Cons. – Parent
12:00-1:00pm	BHD-Day Hospital – Room 253
Mar. 13	High Risk Reviews
11:00-1:00pm	BHD-Day Hospital – Room 253
Mar. 17	Youth Council Meeting
4:00-5:30pm	@ Running Rebels Comm. Org.
Mar. 18	New Care Coordinator Trg. – Mod. 7
9:00-2:30pm	Children's Court Center – Rm. 1260

Mar. 19 **Provider Network Meeting**
10:00am CHP Auditorium

Mar. 20 **Mgmt./Supervisors Meeting**
8:15-10:00am at Aurora Family Service

Mar. 20 **High Risk Reviews**
11:00-1:00pm BHD-Day Hospital – Room 253

Mar. 26 **Cultural Diversity Committee Mtg.**
10:00am BHD-Day Hospital – Room 212

Mar. 27 **High Risk Reviews**
11:00-1:00pm BHD-Day Hospital – Room 253

Mar. 31 **Group Home Meeting**
10:00am BHD-Day Hospital – Room 416

Editor

Debra Jansen, Consumer Relations Coordinator - (414) 257-6532.
For more information on Wraparound Milwaukee, go to our
Website at www.county.milwaukee.gov and search using the
keywords "Wraparound Milwaukee".

Greater Milwaukee Major Events

2/9 – 2/10	Cedarburg Winter Festival	Historic Downtown Cedarburg (800) 237-2874
2/23 – 3/2	Greater Milwaukee Auto Show	Midwest Airlines Center (414) 908-6001